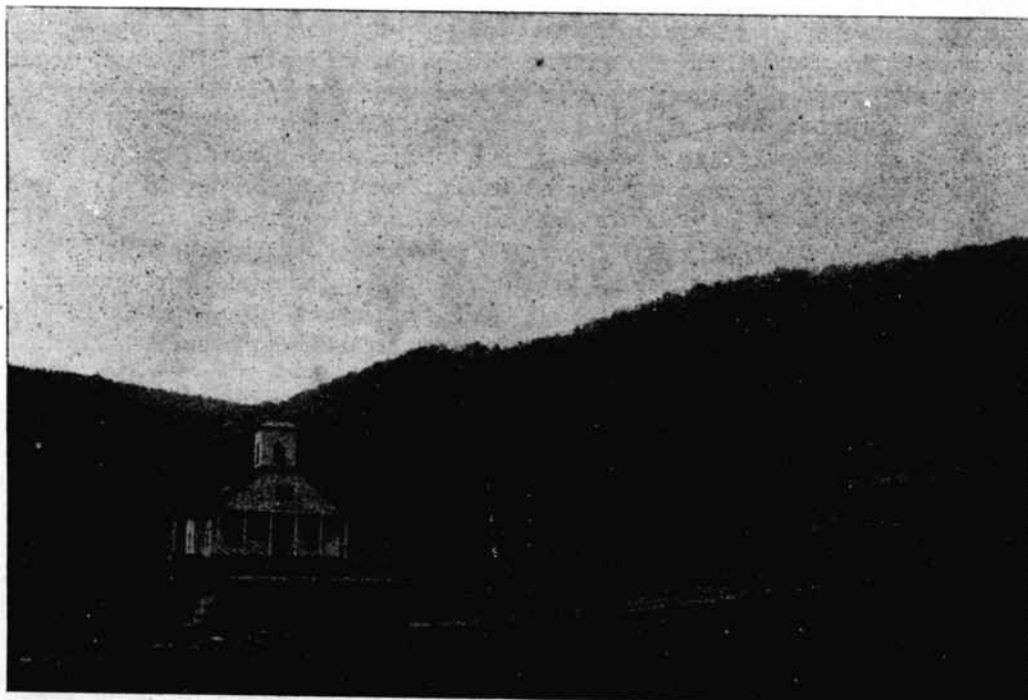


construction. Then woodlands were added to make sure the supply of fuel.

About that time Dr. E. H. Sloop came to bring the medical arm and its good. Later, Reading Hall was begun and when a mere shell, was the home of Rev. and Mrs. H. F. Beaty, now in Cuba. Here the sick send and call for Dr. and Mrs. Sloop. Here the boys and teachers are being housed until ampler buildings can be constructed. Last spring a farm which has four hundred acres was purchased to provide work for boys who make

A Trial.

As a part of the training, the boys are regularly put to tests, but the school had never been tried for its life until the recent fire which burned the Boys' Home. It was the last Friday night in September. The students were all at their literary society when the alarm of fire was given and sixty feet of flame burst from the roof. There was little work of saving that could be done on the second and third floors. In less than an hour a thirty-foot flue fell striking a second high one that went



VIEW OF SCHOOL AT PLUMTREE.

their entire expenses by their labor. These do their own cooking and walk the two miles to and fro each day.

Outposts.

The students early began Christian work in the surrounding neighborhood. One interested the people and built a school house and church. Sundays they may be seen with literature starting on foot to their appointments. Some of them walk eight, ten, twelve and even twenty miles. This work they have kept up until five schools are established and eleven places have religious instruction regularly given.

Results.

The country has been awakened to her great needs. Fourteen young men have given themselves and are being prepared for the ministry. Others wish this for their work. Two summer Bible Conferences for Bible instruction and general evangelistic work have become a part of the yearly work. Eleven workers are enlisted. Two hundred and seventy pupils were enrolled in all the schools last session.

Means of Support.

The school and its branches are supported by the voluntary gifts of God's people, by student labor, and by a small tuition. Those who are engaged in the work have never known want; often they have striven, energized and trusted.

down with it involving the ruin of the boys' property, which was books, clothes, and quarters. The school saved household effects amounting to \$150. The house and furnishings were insured for \$1,500. The loss to the school was about \$3,000.

True to habit next morning the boys fell into line, and though tired, sleepy and despondent, went to classes and passed through the regular duties of the day without losing a period. Tents were put up, vacant log houses were soon occupied, and all were temporarily settled.

Signs of Continued Growth.

A boy from the mountains, reaching Morganton and hearing that the home had burned, came on forty miles, saying he supposed they could find some place for him. A grown young man some days ago came to the school, introduced himself and said, "I am sorry to tell you, but I have no start and I am come to school. Can you help me?" When told there was no place for him and he would have to sleep on the floor, he said he didn't care. He was used to anything. And so he entered.

What May be Accomplished With Means.

Fifty-six dollars will pay for a boy's board and tuition for a year.

Two hundred dollars will build the house and establish a primary school and Sunday school.

Seven dollars will pay for one thousand feet of lumber for the new buildings.